



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

RIYADH • SAUDI ARABIA



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

ELECTRONIC VISA APPLICATION FORMS MANDATORY AS OF NOV. 1

In order to save time and increase privacy protection for visa applicants, the U.S. Department of State will require all non-immigrant visa application forms worldwide to be filled out electronically as of November 1, 2006. The electronic forms, which can be completed on any computer with internet access, can be found at <http://evisaforms.state.gov>. Beginning on November 1, applications filled out by hand or on a typewriter will not be accepted by the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy.

When applicants complete their visa application forms using the free, online electronic visa application form (EVAF), they will receive a print-out of the form and a bar code which can be quickly scanned by U.S. Embassy employees when the applicants arrive for their visa interviews. Beginning November 1, 2006, the electronic form will reduce the wait time applicants experience and insure the accurate, secure transfer of their applications to Embassy staff.

The U.S. Department of State is committed to making the visa application process as quick, easy and secure as possible. Mandatory worldwide use of the electronic visa application form beginning November 1, 2006, will reduce wait times and further speed the application process. The electronic visa application form is free and can be completed at any computer with internet access. Applicants are still required to pay the USD \$100 (SR 380) visa interview fee at SAMBA Bank and bring the receipt of payment with them to the interview. Additional fees may be required for routine processing and visa issuance as needed. For more information about the U.S. visa application process, please visit the U.S. Embassy website at riyadh.usembassy.gov.